



United States Department of Agriculture
National Agricultural Statistics Service

Press Release

Cooperating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture
Idaho Field Office • PO Box 1699 • Boise, Idaho 83701

(800) 691-9987 • (208) 334-1507 • (208) 334-1114 FAX • www.nass.usda.gov



Released: November 20, 2009

Media Contact: Vince Matthews

Idaho October Red Meat Production Down 15 Percent from Last Year

Commercial red meat production at Idaho packing plants for October 2009 totaled 19.3 million pounds, down 15 percent from October of last year, according to the National Agricultural Statistics Service. October production was down 1 percent from September 2009 production. Accumulated red meat production for the January-October 2009 period totaled 191.2 million pounds, down 2 percent from the comparable period a year earlier.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.39 billion pounds in October, down 3 percent from the 4.53 billion pounds produced in October 2008. Beef production, at 2.28 billion pounds, was 3 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.89 million head, down 3 percent from October 2008. The average live weight was up 9 pounds from the previous year, at 1,312 pounds. Veal production totaled 12.2 million pounds, 10 percent below October a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 83,600 head, down 13 percent from October 2008. The average live weight was up 5 pounds from last year, at 249 pounds. Pork production totaled 2.09 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 10.3 million head, down 4 percent from October 2008. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 272 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 14.3 million pounds, was down 5 percent from October 2008. Sheep slaughter totaled 218,800 head, 3 percent below last year. The average live weight was 131 pounds, down 2 pounds from October a year ago. January to October 2009 commercial red meat production was 41.2 billion pounds, down 2 percent from 2008. Accumulated beef production was down 3 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was down 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 3 percent.

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